

CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT (CJA) TASK FORCE

California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA)

Law Enforcement & Victims Services (LEVS) Division

Friday June, 12, 2009, 10:00 AM

Marriott Hotel & Marina, San Diego

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Honorable Harry Elias, Elizabeth DeRouen, Lee Ann Kelly, Carol O'Callaghan, R.N., Sgt. Jay Smith, Tina Williams and Wendy Wright, M.D..

Members Absent: Cathy Stephenson, J.D., David Casey J.D., Donald Cohon, Ph.D., Michael Grogan, and Dale Wilson, J.D.

Cal EMA Staff Present: Ellie Jones MSW, Sally Hencken, Diana Mazuka and Leigh Bills, MSW.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Harry Elias, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM.

Ellie Jones introduced Sally Hencken and Diana Mazuka. All other individuals present introduced themselves.

II. MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 21, 2008 MEETING

The CJA Task Force (Task Force) members reviewed and approved the minutes from the February 20, 200 Task Force meeting.

III. Cal EMA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ellie Jones, Victim Services Branch Chief, updated the Task Force on the progress of the January 1, 2009 merger of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security into one agency; the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA). Ms. Jones informed the Task Force that the Cal EMA leadership remains the same, an organizational chart should be available soon and that chart will be provided to the Task Force.

Ms. Jones updated the Task Force on Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funds indicating Victim Services will be administering approximately \$17,000,000 and that these funds will be held up with the State budget process. Ms. Jones also indicated as of July 1, 2009, the only monies Cal EMA can allocate are Victim/Witness Assistance and General Fund.

Leigh Bills, Criminal Justice Specialist, informed the Task Force the CJA 2009 Application had been submitted and received by the Administration of Children, Youth,

and Families, United States Department of Health and Human Services. Cal EMA applied for \$1,895,881; the amount received for the 2008 CJA Award. Ms. Bills gave the Task Force an overview of the 2008 CJA Federal Grantee meeting in Atlanta, Georgia in March 2009. Ms. Bills indicates she was once again reminded of the great work being done in California and that California seems to be ahead of other States in the organization and function of the Task Force and in the innovative programs funded with CJA funds. Ms. Bills described a mobile multidisciplinary interview center program which was highlighted at the meeting and indicated this may be an interesting use of CJA funds in the future. The mobile center can be taken to rural areas when a child has been identified as a possible victim.

IV. INDIRECT ALLOCATIONS

Ellie Jones described the difference between the Indirect (27% of staff salary) and the LEVS Indirect (55% of staff salary) for the Task Force. Indirect is considered positions which support the administration of CJA funds (and staff which support CJA funds) at an agency and state level; human resources, administrative staff, Controller's Office, etc. LEVS Indirect is Cal EMA staff assigned specifically to the LEVS Division; supervisors, Grants Processing staff, Budgets staff, Accounting staff, etc.

V. TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

The Task Force reviewed all letters of interest and resumes and discussed recommendations for appointments to the Task Force at length. During the discussion, the following motions were made:

- Carol O'Callaghan made a motion to recommend the appointment of Kathleen Cady and Susan M. Torrence to fill the Prosecution membership requirement. Wendy Wright seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.
- Jay Smith made a motion to recommend the appointment of Sgt. Richard Ruiz to fill the Law Enforcement membership requirement. Wendy Wright seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.
- Carol O'Callaghan made a motion to recommend the appointment of Jeffrey Dent to fill the Child Protective Services (CPS) membership requirement. Wendy Wright seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.
- Jay Smith made a motion to not fill the Former Foster Youth position at this time and to recommend the appointment of Annie R. Lynn to fill the Court Appointed Special Advocate membership requirement. Wendy Wright seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.
- Tina Williams made a motion to recommend the appointment of Dr. Barbara Yoshioka Wheeler to fill the Professionals Working with Children with

Disabilities membership requirement. Jay Smith seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

- Carol O'Callaghan made a motion to recommend the appointment of Judge Troy Nunley to fill Civil Court Judge membership requirement. Wendy Wright seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.
- Wendy Wright made a motion to recommend the appointment of Karl Porter as a second CPS member. Carol O'Callaghan seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

The Task Force discussed soliciting members from probation and former foster youth at a later date.

VI. CHILD VICTIMS WITH DISABILITIES THINK TANK (THINK TANK) LANGUAGE

Leigh Bills handed out the language developed by the Think Tank and informed the Task Force that the language had been received the day prior to the meeting leaving no time for Cal EMA program staff to review or discuss the language. The Task Force reviewed the language and Leigh Bills requested the discussion be tabled until the next meeting so Cal EMA program and legal staff could review the language and provide feedback as to its feasibility for the programs supported with CJA funds.

VII. REVIEW 2007 REVERTED FUNDS AND REALLOCATION

The Task Force reviewed the CJA 2007 Reverted Funds chart. Leigh Bills informed the Task Force that the approved Reverted Funds Reallocation Procedure was used to reallocate the funds to the Child Abduction Training (AC) program. Leigh Bills informed the Task Force that Cal EMA first assessed whether the funds could be used by the Tribal Resource Specialist (TS) program and only reallocated the funds to the AC program after it was determined the TS programs would be unable to spend the funds.

Leigh Bills informed the Task Force that the Child Sexual Abuse Examination Mentoring (UC) program informed her they will likely be reverting approximately \$50,000 in CJA 2007 funds. Ms. Bills indicated the Task Force could direct Cal EMA how to use these funds, defer to the Reverted Funds Reallocation Procedure or have Cal EMA swap out the funds with 2008 funds freeing up 2008 funds for reallocation at a later meeting. Jay Smith made a motion to swap the 2007 funds with 2008 funds and discuss these funds at the next Task Force meeting. Tina Williams seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

VIII. PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Steve Wirtz, from the California Department of Public Health presented on the work of the California Child Death Review Council and the success of the Regional Child Death Review program.

Dr. Robert Geffner, from the Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma at Alliant International University presented on the successes of the Child Abuse Victims with Disabilities: First Responder Training Program.

Both Dr. Geffner and Dr. Wirtz requested these programs be considered for future funding.

IX. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Leigh Bills presented the draft Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Human Trafficking of Minors Law Enforcement Training Program. The Task Force discussed various elements of the program and made corrections and suggestions for enhancing the program.

Leigh Bills asked that a temporary sub-committee be established to assist with the development of the Child Abuse Identification Medical Training Program RFP. Carol O'Callaghan and Wendy Wright volunteered to work on this sub-committee. Harry Elias volunteered David Casey as well. The sub-committee's first meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 15, 2009 at 12:30 PM by conference call.

X. MISCELLANEOUS

The Task Force set the date of the next meeting as Thursday, September 10, 2009 at 10:00 AM at the Marriott Hotel & Marina in San Diego.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.